



# The TRICARE Senior Supplement Demonstration Program

EXTENDING YOUR  
HEALTH CARE BENEFITS



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

## TRICARE provides its beneficiaries access to world-class health care benefits.

In that tradition, beginning on April 1, 2000, the Department of Defense will sponsor a demonstration program to provide supplemental health care benefits to Medicare-eligible retired Uniformed Services members and their family members who are age 65 and over.

The TSSD program will temporarily provide TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra eligibility for beneficiaries who have lost that eligibility due to reaching age 65.

Principal among the additional benefits are: use of the National Mail Order Pharmacy, use of TRICARE civilian network pharmacies, payment of Medicare co-insurance, and coverage for certain preventive services.

This demonstration program is being offered to eligible beneficiaries in the Santa Clara County area of California and the Cherokee County area of Texas. Enrollment begins March 1, 2000, and the program is scheduled to run from April 1, 2000, to December 31, 2002.



## *Who* is eligible for the TSSD program?

**To be eligible for the program, you must meet one of the following eligibility requirements:**

- Retired member of the Uniformed Services; or
- Family member of a retired member of the Uniformed Services; or
- Survivor of a retired member of the Uniformed Services; or
- Family member of a service member who died while serving on active duty for a period of more than thirty days.

**Additionally, you must meet all of the following criteria:**

- Age sixty-five or over;
- Entitled to Medicare Part A;
- Enrolled in Medicare Part B; and
- Residing in a designated zip code area for the demonstration program.

## **What are the specific program benefits?**

The TSSD program serves as a secondary payor to Medicare coverage, reducing or eliminating out of pocket expenses in most cases, and providing reimbursement for some services not covered by the Medicare program. Enrollment begins March 1, 2000, and medical coverage under this program will begin April 1, 2000. The program is scheduled to end December 31, 2002.



### **Specific benefits include:**

- Prescription drugs from the National Mail Order Pharmacy
- Prescription drugs from the TRICARE civilian network pharmacies
- Coverage for most or all of the Medicare co-insurance for physician, hospital and other care
- Extended coverage for mental health services
- Coverage for certain diagnostic procedures and preventive services
- Coverage for health care services delivered outside the United States

Participation in this program makes you ineligible for any routine medical care or prescription drugs from a military hospital or clinic.

### **What are the costs to participate in this program?**

The enrollment fee for The TRICARE Senior Supplement Demonstration is \$576 per person annually. This fee may be paid annually, or quarterly (\$144 per person). You may also incur some out of pocket costs associated with nonreimbursed co-payments and deductibles.

## **What about deductibles?**

As in Medicare or TRICARE Extra and TRICARE Standard, you are responsible for an annual deductible amount, as well as for sharing the cost of care. Both the TRICARE and Medicare deductibles are satisfied concurrently. After meeting the Medicare deductible for covered services, you pay any additional costs until you have met your TRICARE deductible. You may save an additional 5% of your cost share under TRICARE if your physician is part of the TRICARE Extra network.

## **When can I enroll?**

Enrollment begins March 1, 2000. You may enroll on or after that date. This is an open enrollment program—you may choose to enroll at any point during the demonstration program.

## **How can I obtain more information about the TSSD program?**

Additional information about this program may be obtained by calling our Customer Service Center toll free at 1-877-DOD-TSSD (1-877-363-8773) 8:00 am – 5:00 pm CST Monday through Friday, or by visiting our web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tssd/>.

We have developed a program handbook that contains specific program and enrollment information, and an enrollment form. To order a handbook, call the number above. In addition, we will be hosting informational meetings in your area concerning the program. The dates and sites are included on the back of this brochure. Please try to attend one of these meetings — helpful information pertaining to your healthcare options will be provided and discussed.

## Informational meetings in your area

### **Tuesday, February 29**

**9:00 am • Livermore, CA**

Elks Lodge

940 Larkspur Drive

### **Wednesday, March 1**

**9:00 am • Santa Clara, CA**

VFW

1313 Franklin Street

### **Wednesday, March 1**

**1:00 pm • Santa Clara, CA**

VFW

1313 Franklin Street

### **Thursday, March 2**

**9:00 am • Hollister, CA**

Elks Lodge

351 Astro Drive

### **Thursday, March 2**

**1:00 pm • Watsonville, CA**

VFW

1960 Freedom Blvd.



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6000 Westown Parkway  
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**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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### **For more program information:**

1-877-DOD-TSSD (1-877-363-8773)

<http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tssd/>